

Spectacular Spiders

Come join us for a night of spiders...

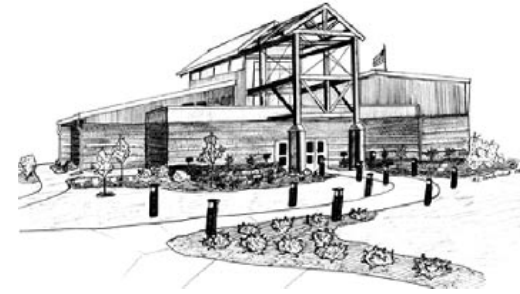
As we untangle the web of mystery.



Check the October calendar for more details.

Friday, October 21

7:00 to 9:00 pm



Tupelo Times

OCTOBER and NOVEMBER 2005 VOL. 1, NO. 3

The Newsletter of the **Cape Girardeau Conservation Campus** Nature Center

Fall: The Best Time to Get Outdoors!

Get out! Yes, you heard me correctly, I said “get out.” Take advantage of the cooler temperatures, the beauty of fall, and everything that the Cape Girardeau Conservation Campus Nature Center has to offer. This time of year everyone is busy-- busy as bees in the hive. I hope that you’ll find time to go outside and connect with the land. Why choose to go outside? It’s free, it’s easy, it’s relaxing, and most of all, it’s FUN! Visit your backyard, a park, or a conservation area. Slow down and spend a few minutes listening, observing, and just being outdoors.

Why choose to visit the Cape Girardeau Conservation Campus Nature Center? For all the reasons above and more! There is a program for everyone, regardless of what your age or interest is.

Kids can fish in the pond with fishing poles, worms, and equipment available for checkout. The pond, for kids 15 and under, is stocked with sunfish, channel catfish, and largemouth bass.

The White Oak Trace trail system is now open. The trail is great for hiking because it is

close to town and you can make it as long or as short as you like. Join us for a fall color hike where we’ll share insight into why leaves change color and investigate what’s going on with wildlife and other plants.

Not into hiking? No problem. We have programs on other topics too, like waterfowl hunting, backyard bird feeding, and spiders.

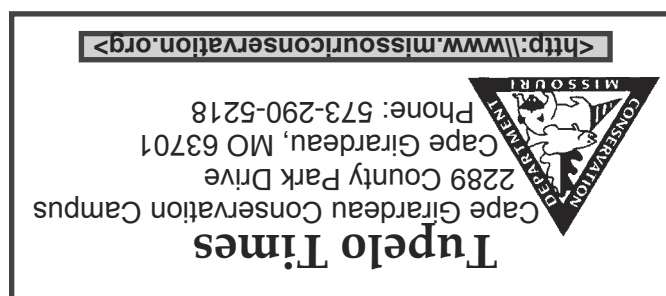
If you’d like more information about any of these activities, take a look at the calendar insert inside this newsletter. The calendar has been designed to make it easier for you to pull out and stick on your refrigerator, so everything you need is right at your fingertips.

I know what you are thinking -- what if it’s raining or even snowing? No problem, we’ve brought the outdoors inside. There are interactive exhibits, videos, an outdoor viewing area, and live critters. All of the bases are covered. There is no reason you shouldn’t visit the nature center and participate in one of the many activities. We’ll be looking for you!

- Sara Scheper

Private Land Management Series

Want to learn more about how to manage your land for wildlife, improve forests, plant trees, landscape with native plants, or control pond weeds? This monthly series of workshops will focus on improving landowner’s knowledge of managing forest, fish, and wildlife. Each segment of the series will provide up-to-date information on different aspects of land management. Check the calendars inside each newsletter for date and topic.



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Meet the staff... Clerical

From answering phone calls and greeting visitors to managing fiscal services and supervising productivity, the tasks performed by this team of four are wide-ranging and endless. Please meet (left to right) Kimberly Hunt (Administrative Staff Assistant), Jane Nicholas (Public Service Assistant), Shirley K. Davis (General Clerk), and Lisa Seyer (Office Supervisor). These employees greet visitors and answer a variety of questions, produce the Tupelo Times newsletter and other informational documents, manage the Nature Shop and sell permits, process invoices and balance statements, take program reservations and manage databases, communicate natural history and regulation information effectively, procure supplies for routine maintenance and programming, supervise staff and assist with policy direction, and perform a variety of clerical duties for the rest of the staff. The value of these dedicated employees to the public and the service of this nature center is immeasurable. The next time you call or come in to the center, let these ladies know how much they are appreciated.



To get your free subscription to this publication call 573-290-5218.



Holiday Closing

Trails will be open, but the nature center will be closed November 24-25 for the Thanksgiving holiday. Visit us on Saturday and Sunday, November 26 & 27.

Thank You

Donations of Time, Material, and Service

Laura Foltz: Hummingbird nest

Larry & Mary Hamilton: Albino gray squirrel mount

Aaron Kothe: Black widow spider

Lani Chambers, Cathie Hutcheson, Merv Wallace, and Sarah Dozier: Volunteers helping with the Hummingbird Celebration

Youth Conservation Corps: Work around the nature center

Juanita J. Kain: Deer mount in memory of Charles A. Kain

Those purchasing paving stones for the Conservation Campus walkway:

Juanita J. Kain

Mary Busch

Eileen D. Hoskin

Mayford C. Warren

Brian Alworth

Sandra Huey

Stacey Seabaugh

Ralph and Melanie Sanders

Mike Kahle

Roger and Judith Anne Lang

Mildred Loos

Cape Girardeau Conservation Campus Nature Center is located in North Cape Girardeau County Park off Kingshighway just east of Interstate 55 at exit 99. The building is open Tuesday through Saturday 8am to 5pm and Sunday noon to 5pm and is closed Mondays, New Year's Day, Thanksgiving, and Christmas. The area is open daily from sunrise to 10pm in accordance with the Cape Girardeau County Park Rules and Regulations.

Nature center grounds and trails are closed to pets, horses, hunting, collecting, littering, fires, and alcoholic beverages. The trails are also closed to bicycles, jogging, in-line skates, skateboards, scooters, and motorized vehicles.

The Cape Girardeau Conservation Campus Nature Center is operated through hunting and fishing license revenues and through the 1/8% "Design for Conservation" sales tax. There is no admission charge.

Phone: 573/290-5218; Fax: 573/290-5566; Internet: www.mdc.mo.gov/areas/cnc/cape

Educators' Niche Upcoming Workshops!

To The Hunt!

Friday, October 14, 8am-5pm

Saturday, October 15, 8am-5pm

Deer Management in Missouri

Many components must come together to provide a sustainable hunting population. This course will look at how management practices, habitat requirements, carrying capacity, hunting pressure, safety and ethics all work together to provide deer hunting in Missouri. Participants will leave with knowledge and skills that can be used in the classroom to teach these important concepts. This course will take place October 14 and 15.

Bridget Jackson: 573-290-5858,
ext. 300 to register

Project Learning Tree Workshop

Friday, Sept 23, 8am-5pm

Saturday, Sept 24, 8am-5pm

Project Learning Tree is a curriculum focusing on forestry resources. There are over 100 interdisciplinary activities that have been correlated with the Show-Me Standards. Activities are geared toward kindergarten through eighth grade. This is a six-hour training workshop that will be held at the Ivey Cabin at Castor River Conservation Area. There is a \$15 charge for the training workshop.

Bridget Jackson: 573-290-5858,
ext. 300 to register

Telecheck

Beginning with the 2005 fall deer and turkey seasons, all hunters will be required to check deer and turkey electronically—either by phone or internet—using the Telecheck system.

Telecheck eliminates the requirement that hunters physically present harvested animals at an official check station before processing.

To use the system hunters simply call 1-800-314-6828 or go to the Conservation Department website at www.missouriconservation.org and follow the step-by-step instructions for checking game. Each caller is given an eight-digit confirmation number that verifies the hunter has legally checked his/her game. The hunter then must enter the confirmation number on the main portion of a permit and attach it to the game.



The Nature Shop

The Nature Shop features a variety of nature-related books, videos/DVDs, and resources to increase awareness and knowledge of conservation and the outdoors.

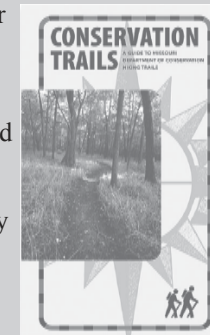
Special monthly discounts ... **20% Off**
(Conservation Heritage Card discounts do not apply)

OCTOBER

Conservation Trails Guide

This book highlights trails on conservation areas throughout the state. This newest edition features trail map and facility information of 85 trails on 40 of our Conservation Areas.

This handy guide includes easy-to-use maps, trail length and difficulty, points of interest, and plants and animals you may encounter along the way.

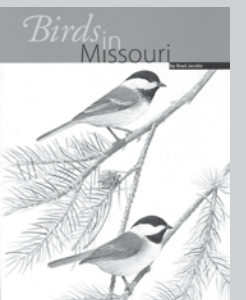


Discounted price:
\$4.00 plus tax

NOVEMBER

Birds in Missouri

For those who love birds and for those who are about to, this reference book is a must. With beautiful illustrations of 355 species and their habitats this book also features essays that provide insight into the lives of birds, history in Missouri, and bird conservation.



Discounted price:
\$24.00 plus tax

MDC 2005 Hunting Seasons & Limits



For a complete list please visit
www.missouriconservation.org



Dove: Sep 1-Nov 9 Bag limit: 12 daily, 24 possession.

Sora & Virginia Rails: Sep 1-Nov 9 Bag limit: 25 daily, 25 possession.

Teal: Sep 10-Sep 18 Bag limit: 4 daily, 8 possession. Sunrise to sunset.

Deer Archery: Sep 15-Nov 11 Permits and regulations available in July.

Turkey Archery: Sep 15-Nov 11, Permits and regulations available in July.

Turkey Fall Firearms: Oct 1-Oct 31 Permits and regulations available in July.

Rabbit: Oct 1-Feb 15, 2006 6 bag limit, 12 possession limit (No more than 2 / 4 swamp rabbits).

Deer Urban Counties: Oct 7-Oct 10 Permits and regulations available in July.

Deer Youth: Oct 29-Oct 30 Permits and regulations available in July.

Pheasants Northern Zone: Nov 1-Jan 15, 2006 See Wildlife Code.

Deer Firearms: Nov 12-Nov 22 Permits and regulations available in July.

Furbearers: Nov 15-Feb 15, 2006 No limit. See Wildlife Code.

Deer Archery: Nov 23-Jan 15, 2006 Permits and regulations available in July.

Turkey Archery: Nov 23-Jan 15, 2006 Permits and regulations available in July.

Deer Muzzleloader: Nov 25-Dec 4 Permits and regulations available in July.

Pheasant Southeast Zone: Dec 1-Dec 12, See Wildlife Code.

Deer Antlerless: Dec 10-Dec 18 Permits and regulations available in July.

October Events

REGISTRATION

There are many programs that require registration. Please call the nature center at **573/290-5218** on or after October 1 for this month's programs requiring registration. If you are unable to attend a program, please call to cancel so that someone on the waiting list may attend.

2 Naturalist's Notebook Sunday, 2-3pm



On the first Sunday of each month, join one of the Naturalists as they select a favorite program from their notebook, set up an interesting discovery table, or explore current natural events along the trail. Regardless of their selection, you'll be glad you came. Families. No registration required.

4 Tree Planting Workshop Tuesday, 7-9pm



Interested in planting trees next spring? Now's the time to begin planning for a successful planting. This workshop, led by Resource Forester, Mike Keeley, will include information on how to select the right trees, prepare the site, and develop a weed control strategy. Visit the Conservation Department website www.missouriconservation.org after November 15 to get a copy of the 2005-2006 tree seedling order form. Ages 12 and up. No registration required.

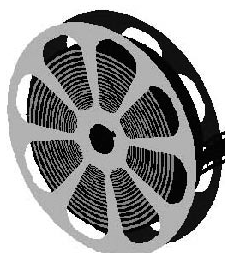
Snappers

Snappers programs are designed for kids ages 7-11. We regret that we cannot accommodate other ages during this program. An adult must accompany the participant. Registration required.

Registration begins October 1

Creatures of the Night Tuesday, October 11 6:30-8:00pm

With their ability to stalk the night effortlessly and powerful gripping claws, owls are truly creatures of the night. Once thought to be evil, these raptors were believed to curse whoever crossed their path. Now these animals are referred to as wise old owls. Join us to discover the wonders of these amazing birds by entering their nighttime homes.



Featured Films
shown in the
auditorium
Sundays
from 3-4pm

8 Hunter Education Saturday, 8am-3pm Sunday, 1-5pm



This 10-hour course is required for anyone born January 1, 1967, or after, who wants to hunt with a firearm in Missouri. This course begins on Saturday from 8-3pm and continues on Sunday from 1-5pm (Saturday lunch break given-lunch not provided). You must pass a written test to be certified. This course satisfies the mandatory requirement needed to purchase a hunting permit in all 50 states. Ages 11-adult. Adult required for students 12 and under. Pre-registration required. Contact the Southeast Regional office at 573-290-5730.

9 Fall Colors Hike Sunday, 2-4pm



Observe the changing fall colors as we hike the White Oak Trace here at the nature center. Find out why leaves change color and try your hand at identifying some of Missouri's most common trees. Meet in the front lobby of the nature center. Moderate to difficult terrain. Wear comfortable walking shoes and bring a water bottle. No registration required.

Mudpuppies

Mudpuppies programs are designed for kids ages 3-6. We regret that we cannot accommodate other ages. Please limit attendance to one 45 minute program per month. An adult must accompany the participant. Registration required.

Registration begins October 1

Basically Bats Saturday, October 15 11am or 1pm Tuesday, October 25 10am or 1pm

BATS LOVE BUGS! FOR LUNCH THAT IS! We will talk about why people are afraid of bats and explore the benefits of these great bug hunters. Then we will make a bat for you to take home.

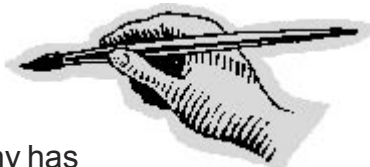
15 Adults Only Hawk Watch Saturday, 9am-12pm



What's that bird flying overhead? Hawk, eagle, vulture, falcon? This is the time of year when birds of prey make their way to Mexico, Central America, and South America for the winter. Venture out with us to watch these birds as they migrate along the Mississippi River valley. We'll carpool to Trail of Tears State Park to view the river valley and identify these great birds as they rise up on thermal winds. While watching we'll discuss raptor flight, migration patterns, and migratory bird conservation issues. Spotting scopes, binoculars and field guides will be provided. Ages 18-adult. Registration required.

16 Meet the Artist Kathy Dickson Sunday, 1-4pm

Drop by anytime during the afternoon to meet artist Kathy Dickson and watch as she creates wonderful wildlife art. Kathy has won seven conservation stamp and print competitions and was the National Artist of the Year with the National Wild Turkey Federation in 2001.



21 Spectacular Spiders Friday, 7-9pm

Although many people find spiders a little intimidating and sometimes scary, these 8-legged creatures are rather intriguing and very important. Join us for an evening of spectacular spiders as we dispel myths, and (perhaps) fall in love with spiders. Hear a story and enjoy a craft in the "Spider's Lair", observe some of Missouri's common spiders up close, learn how to identify Missouri's venomous species, and use your nose outside to "sniff" out some spiders. Families. No registration required.



Racers

Racers programs are designed for teens ages 12-17, are usually a few hours in length, and are often off-site trips. We regret that we cannot accommodate other ages. Registration required.

Registration begins October 1

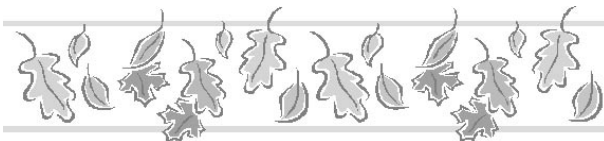
Safety & Shooting A Winning Combination Wednesday, October 26 6:30-8:00pm

Have you been thinking of starting a new hobby in hunting or target shooting? This is a short program designed to give you a taste of what you need to know as an owner of a firearm. Join Conservation Agent, Darin Pettitt, for tips on playing it safe around firearms. Then, test your skills on our laser shot system, which simulates shooting a firearm, video-game style. No experience necessary. **This does not take the place of the Hunter Education Course.**



Color Burst!

Mid-October in southeast Missouri brings on the peak of fall color. There is less energy for the trees to make food because of the shorter days and cooler nights. Chlorophyll, which gives leaves their green color, starts to break down. This allows the hidden yellow and orange colors to show through. To learn more about this natural process and to get a map of the scenic driving routes, stop by the front desk and ask for the "Fall Color" brochure.



November Events

REGISTRATION

There are many programs that require registration. Please call the nature center at **573/290-5218** on or after November 1 for this month's programs requiring registration. If you are unable to attend a program, please call to cancel so that someone on the waiting list may attend.

1 Whitetail Deer Management *Beyond the Food Plot* **Tuesday, 7-9pm**

Got that perfect deer food plot but they don't seem interested? Come and find out what deer really want! This workshop, led by Private Land Conservationist, Dave Wissehr, will increase your understanding of deer management and outline proven techniques to provide better deer habitat in both woodlands and fields. Ages 12 and up. No registration required.

3 Waterfowl Hunting Tips, Techniques & Tactics **Thursday 6:30-8pm**

The season of frigid north winds and whistling wings will soon fill Missouri's rivers, lakes, and wetlands with migrating waterfowl. Recent changes in weather patterns, increased wetland management, and increased rice production have noticeably changed migration patterns and resulted in our region becoming the "heart" of the wintering waterfowl population. Bring your hunting partners and youth hunters to the nature center for a night of waterfowl hunting tips, techniques and tactics. Learn about new techniques and equipment used to attract and hunt migrating waterfowl in the southeast Missouri area. Ages 12-adult. Registration begins October 15.



Mudpuppies

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Registration begins November 1

Talkin' Turkey **Saturday, November 5** **11am or 1pm** **Tuesday, November 15** **10am or 1pm**

Gobble! Gobble! Who's that strutting by? Wild turkey are abundant in southeast Missouri. We will see how the turkey grows and learn some sounds that it makes before we make our own turkey to take home.

6 Naturalist's Notebook **Sunday, 2-3pm**



On the first Sunday of each month, join one of the Naturalists as they select a favorite program from their notebook, set up an interesting discovery table, or explore current natural events along the trail.

Regardless of their selection, you'll be glad you came. Families. No registration required.

Snappers

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Registration begins November 1

Not Just A Long Winter's Nap **Tuesday, November 8** **6:30-8:00pm**

As the trees' leaves begin to fall and the nights become longer, many species of Missouri wildlife curl up for a long winter's nap. The season has arrived, food sources are scarce and it is time to turn in. Learn how animals prepare for hibernation and just how long they enjoy their winter slumber.

13 White Oak Trace *Waiting for Winter Hike* **Sunday, 2-3pm**

As the days grow shorter and the temperature drops so does the activity of Missouri's wildlife. Many of the birds have migrated to their warm winter homes and most other animals are snuggled up in dens or slumbering underground. The leaves have dropped and all is quiet except the occasional honk of a far off goose. Join us while we enjoy this peaceful moment and discover why winter can be such a wonderful time. No registration required.



Missouri Department of Conservation *Natural Events* calendars come in this month. Make sure to stop by the Nature Shop and purchase yours. They make great holiday gifts!

Racers

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Registration begins November 1

Prowling for Owls **Friday, November 18** **6:30-9:30pm**

Do you have what it takes to become the next Dr. Doolittle? Come find out as we go prowling for owls to investigate the behavior and adaptations of these raptors. It's up to you to dispel man's common misconceptions and superstitions to seek the truth about the benefits of owls. We'll search for nesting sites, try to call them in, see what they eat, and enjoy a fantastic night-time treat!

19 "Adults Only" *Backyard Bird Feeding* **Saturday, 9-11am**

Make your backyard a bird "Bed & Breakfast". Learn the basics of attracting, feeding, and identifying winter birds. This session will also cover seed preferences, feeder types, and maintenance. Bring your binoculars for some up-close bird observations. Ages 18-adult. Registration required.



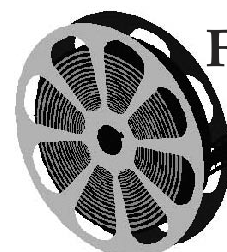
26 Battle of the Bulge **Saturday, 2-3pm**

Too much turkey got you feeling a bit stuffed? Are you looking for an activity to help you lose a couple of those new found pounds? Strut on down to the nature center for a strenuous hike and a chance to see the outside world. Wear your favorite pair of tennis shoes or hiking boots and prepare to sweat off the holiday goodies. No registration required.



27 Winter Mystery Corner **Sunday, 1-3pm**

Did you know that turkeys have spurs? How does an otter stay warm in the water? What animal has built-in antifreeze? These are just a few of the questions that will be answered at the mystery corner as we use "hands-on, minds-on" investigation. All ages will enjoy!!! No registration required.



Featured Films
shown in the
auditorium
Sundays
from 3-4pm